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### MRT opens for summer run Friday

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# NEWS

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MRT OPENS  
FOR SUMMER  
RUN FRIDAY

MISSOULA---

The Montana Repertory Theater opens its summer season Friday (June 21) at 8:30 p.m. with a production of Neil Simon's Broadway hit comedy "The Odd Couple."

This is the first of five productions scheduled for a rotating repertory, playing nightly in the University Theater through August 18. Murray Schisgal's wacky comedy "Luv" opens Saturday night at 8:30 and will alternate in nightly performances with "The Odd Couple" during the coming week.

"The Unsinkable Molly Brown," Meredith Willson's American musical comedy, joins the Repertory schedule June 29 at 8:30 p.m. Edward Albee's "A Delicate Balance" opens on July 6 and Aristophanes' great anti-war farce "Lysistrata" joins the repertory on July 19.

This is the first year for the Montana Repertory Theater in summer activity. Founded in the fall of 1967 by the University of Montana, the Montana Arts Council and Department of Drama, the repertory is designed to provide the northern Rocky Mountain states with a professional theater program to serve the region. A March 1968 tour of three states with three plays proved highly successful in its initial season.

Bill Shryock of Kalispell and James Carney of Billings will star in "The Odd Couple." The penetrating comedy about two men, who have separated from their wives and decide to set up bachelor housekeeping together, is one of a long string of hits by Neil Simon. Other cast members appearing in the production are Melvon Ankeny, Victor; Doug Dunnell and Nancy Senechal, Missoula; Joe Ferrell, Lewistown; Fred Booth and Rosalie Bracco, Butte. The production is directed by Alan Cook, associate director of the Repertory company. Costumes are by Teddy Ulmer.

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Designer Richard H. James has executed the sets and lighting for the production and is responsible for the remodeling of the University Theater into a thrust stage. The new design, thrusting the stage out into the auditorium and moving seating to three sides of the thrust, provides a new and exciting approach to theatrical production.

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